Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 13. (Withdrawn.)

14. (Currently Amended.) A method of transforming *Acacia mangium* with a gene of interest comprising the steps of:
a) activating *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* comprising said gene of interest ~~to form activated *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*~~;
b) preculturing an explant of *Acacia mangium* ~~to yield a precultured explant~~;
c) co-cultivating said activated *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* and said precultured explant to produce infected explants;
d) culturing said infected explants to induce callus and adventitious buds; and
e) culturing said callus or adventitious buds on a selective medium.

15. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said preculturing of said explant is performed on a medium comprising MS basic medium supplemented with a) thidiazuron, b) indole-3-acetic acid, c) casein enzymatic hydrolysate, d) L-ascorbic acid, e) L-glutamine, f) L-asparagine, g) L-proline, h) sucrose and I) phytagel or agar.

16. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said explants are soaked in 0.5 M mannitol prior to the step of co-cultivating.

17. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said co-cultivating is performed on a medium comprising MS basic medium supplemented with a) thidiazuron, b) indole-3-acetic acid, c) casein enzymatic hydrolysate, d) L-ascorbic acid, e) L-glutamine, f) L-asparagine, g) L-proline, h) sucrose and I) phytagel or agar.

18. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said co-cultivating is performed in the dark.

19. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said selective medium comprises a medium comprising MS basic medium supplemented with a) thidiazuron, b) indole-3-acetic acid, c) casein enzymatic hydrolysate, d) L-ascorbic acid, e) L-glutamine, f) L-asparagine, g) L-proline, h) sucrose and I) phytagel or agar.

20. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said preculture is performed using a photoperiod of 16 hours light/8 hours dark.

21. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said culturing on selective medium is performed using a photoperiod of 16 hours light/8 hours dark.

22. (Original.) The method of claim 14 wherein said explant is selected from the group consisting of stem, leaflet, petiole and bud.

23. (Original.) A method for promoting elongation of transformed adventitious buds of *Acacia mangium* comprising transforming an *Acacia mangium* explant by the method of claim 14 and further comprising a step of addition of gibberellic acid to the culture medium following formation of adventitious buds.

24. (Original.) A method for promoting pinnate leaf formation on transformed adventitious buds of *Acacia mangium* comprising transforming an *Acacia mangium* explant by the method of claim 14 and further comprising culturing adventitious buds which develop on a medium with gibberellic acid.

25-27. (Withdrawn.)

28. (Original.) A method of preparing transgenic *Acacia mangium* cells comprising the steps of

a) preculturing stem pieces of *Acacia mangium* in a culture medium; and

b) co-cultivating said stem pieces of step (a) with activated *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*.

29. (Original.) The method of claim 28 wherein said preculturing is performed for 3 days using a photoperiod of 16/8 hours (light/dark).

30. (Original.) The method of claim 29 wherein said preculturing is performed using 1800-2000 lux for the light cycles.

31. (Original.) The method of claim 28 wherein said preculturing is performed at 28°C.

32. (Original.) The method of claim 28 wherein said culture medium is AM-265.

33. (Currently Amended.) The method of claim 28 wherein said stem pieces are soaked in ~~a~~ 0.5 M mannitol ~~solution~~ prior to co-cultivating with *Agrobacterium tumefaciens*.

34. (Currently Amended.) The method of claim 28 wherein said ~~activated~~ *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* ~~were~~ was ~~prepared~~ activated by growing ~~them~~ the *Agrobacterium* in induction medium, at 28°C in the dark.

35. (Canceled.)

36. (Canceled.)

37-42. (Withdrawn.)